



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (12-5684)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio,
 Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews
 and Commissioner Susan Burton

Excused: Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D. and Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Call to Order. (12-5412)

Chairperson Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Chairperson Montañó led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a
moment of silence.**

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the November 28, 2012 Minutes. (12-5624)

**On motion of Commissioner Barbara Bigby, seconded by Commissioner
Donald S. Andrews, unanimously carried, the minutes of
November 28, 2012 were approved.**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. DISCUSSION

2. Discussion on The Citizen's Commission on Jail Violence final report and its
recommendations. (12-5631)

**The Honorable Lourdes G. Baird, Chair, Citizens' Commission on Jail
Violence (CCJV) introduced Miriam Aroni Krinsky, Executive Director,**

and Richard E. Drooyan, General Counsel who diligently served on the Commission. Ms. Baird stated that the Commission was made up of five Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Commission was formed because of the persistent pattern of unreasonable use of force in the jails that have been reported over the years. Ms. Baird stated that the mandate of CCJV was to conduct a review of the nature, depth and cause of the problem of inappropriate Sheriff Deputy use of force in the jails, and to recommend corrective action as necessary. It was also the task of the Commission to restore public confidence in the constitutional operation of our jails. Ms. Baird further informed the Commissioners that although CCJV produced an excellent report they have no power to implement the recommendations. Ms. Baird deferred to Ms. Miriam Krinsky to provide additional information on the overall work of the Commission.

Ms. Krinsky reported on the 77 findings and Mr. Drooyan will report on the 63 recommendations contained in their report dated September 2012. Ms. Krinsky stated that the process was a nine month investigation. The Commission was formed last fall and began its work in January 2012. In total there was a team of 50 plus pro bono lawyers that dedicated their time and expertise to the investigation. Over the course of nine months they interviewed 150 witnesses including experts from around the nation, retired law enforcement, clergy, and former inmates. The Commission visited every jail in Los Angeles County as well as Rikers Island, New York City's main jail. A total of 13 meetings were held and 29 witnesses testified. Ms. Krinsky urged the Commissioners to visit the CCJV website to view witness transcripts, exhibits and other documents.

Ms. Krinsky further reported that CCJV also formed a sub-committee because of the importance of ensuring that the voices of the community were heard. A community forum was held to allow former inmates and families of inmates to share their experiences. CCJV found that the information was consistent and there was a persistent problem of excessive force over the years. Ms. Krinsky stated that the report was thorough and fair.

Ms. Krinsky pointed out a few highlights of the findings in the following categories:

- A History of Recommended Reforms
 - Use of force problems are not new, not recent, expanded over the decades and met with little or no response
- Management

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- Failure of leadership from Sheriff to monitor use of force in Los Angeles County jails
 - The Undersheriff has made statements and engaged in conduct inconsistent with the Department's Core Values
 - Use of Force
 - Amount and types of force used
 - 72% was significant force
 - Force policy was disjointed and contained in many different places
 - Force was being under reported
 - Disparity between Sheriff Data systems
 - Personnel
 - Inconsistent staffing in jails with corrections best practices
 - Disciplinary systems
 - Inadequate investigations
 - Oversight
 - There is no single entity that provides comprehensive monitoring of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and its jails

Following Ms. Krinsky's report, Mr. Richard Drooyan reported that he was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to act as the implementation monitor and to deliver monthly reports to the Board along with the Sheriff on the implementation of the recommendations. The first report will be presented to the Board on December 18, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. The recommendations were issued by CCJV in September 2012 and accepted by the Board and the Sheriff. The Board has directed County Counsel to set up an Office of Inspector General (OIG), that will be responsible for reviewing use of force incidents, monitoring the Sheriff, as well as, the inside of the jails, reviewing audits and inspections produced by the Department, and reporting to the Board.

Mr. Drooyan further reported that the recommendations are a blueprint to restructure and reorganize the Custody Division. To increase accountability, implement reforms and change the culture of the Department. A total of 63 recommendations were presented in the report which includes hiring an Assistant Sheriff who will solely reside over the Custody Division. There is an ongoing nationwide search until the Assistant Sheriff position. The Assistant Sheriff will report directly to the Sheriff. This recommendation will also aid in creating a new division for people who desire a career in custody. Mr. Drooyan will be overseeing the process of selecting the Assistant Sheriff by March 1, 2013; with anticipation to officially be on board by the first week of April.

Drooyan concluded by urging the Commissioners to support the recommendations, as well as, communicating with the Sheriff, Assistant Sheriff, OIG, jail monitors and Clergy and possibly invite them to attend the Commission's meeting.

III. REPORTS

3. Chairperson's Report on various items for December 5, 2012. (12-5626)

Chairperson Montaño shared the following Newspaper Article with the Commissioners:

Daily Breeze:

- **Sheriff Says He Needs \$34 Million More to Institute Jail Reforms (December 5, 2012)**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Treasurer's Report for December 5, 2012. (12-5627)

Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$606.58.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for December 5, 2012. (12-5628)

Ms. Bolaji Famuyiwa presented Chair Montano and Commissioners with the final draft letter of commendation for Mr. Bill Bermudez of the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on December 5, 2012. (12-5629)

In Compliance:

- **Vice Chairperson Bacio visited Heritage Group Home - Page 21 #4, on November 29, 2012.**
- **Vice Chairperson Bacio visited Heritage Group Home - Page 21 #1, on December 4, 2012.**

Unavailable:

Commissioner Bigby visited Ettie Lee Home - Page 16 #4, on November 30, 2012. She will return at a later date.

7. Commissioners Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from November 29, 2012 to December 4, 2012. (12-5630)

During the reporting period the following Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- **Chairperson Montaño and Commissioner Andrews visited Cerritos Station on December 3, 2012**
- **Chairperson Montaño and Commissioner Andrews visited Santa Clarita Station on December 4, 2012**

During the reporting period the following group home was visited but not inspected:

- **Chairperson Montaño and Commissioner Andrews visited Ralston House - Page 10 #2 on November 29, 2012 and reported that no one was home.**

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

8. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (12-5632)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

9. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (12-5633)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

10. Adjournment for the meeting of December 5, 2012. (12-5634)

There being no further business, the meeting of December 5, 2012 was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.